

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: FARMERS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., AND WINTERSET MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	DOCKET NO. SPU-02-22
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**ORDER GRANTING PETITION FOR MODIFICATION
OF SERVICE AREA BOUNDARIES**

(Issued January 15, 2003)

On December 10, 2002, Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Farmers), and Winterset Municipal Utilities (Winterset) filed a joint petition for modification of electric service area boundaries pursuant to 199 IAC 20.3(9). The petition asked that the service area maps be modified to reflect the actual territories being served by the two utilities. No objections to the petition were filed.

The service area maps show three discrepancies between the service territories as reflected on the maps and the areas actually served by Farmers and Winterset. The following two parcels currently served by Farmers are reflected on the maps as served by Winterset and the utilities request that these parcels formally be transferred from Winterset to Farmers:

Madison County, Township 75 North, Range 27 West, the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 7; and the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 7.

The following parcel currently served by Winterset is reflected on the map as served by Farmers and the utilities request the parcels be formally transferred from Farmers to Winterset:

Madison County, Township 75 North, Range 28 West, the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 1.

In support of the petition, Farmers and Winterset state that the changes would reflect the territories actually served by the two utilities. The petition is to correct an ambiguity in the maps and errors in prior legal descriptions. Customers in the affected parcels will continue to be served by the utility currently providing service.

Iowa Code § 476.25 (2001) provides in pertinent part:

Contracts between electric utilities to designate service areas and customers to be served by the electric utility or for the exchange of customers between electric utilities, when approved by the board, shall be valid and enforceable and shall be incorporated into the appropriate exclusive service areas established pursuant to subsection 1 of this section. The board shall approve a contract if it finds that the contract will eliminate or avoid unnecessary duplication of facilities, will provide adequate electric service to all areas and customers affected, will promote the efficient and economical use and development of the electric systems of the contracting electric utilities, and is in the public interest.

The Board will grant the Farmers and Winterset joint petition for modification of service area boundaries. Farmers and Winterset have alleged facts which establish the proposed modification is in the public interest, will prevent unnecessary duplication of facilities, provide adequate electric service to all customers affected, and will promote the efficient and economical use of electrical systems, pursuant to Iowa Code § 476.25.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The joint petition for modification of service area boundaries filed by Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc., and Winterset Municipal Utilities on December 10, 2002, is granted, subject to complaint or investigation.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Diane Munns

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 15th day of January, 2003.